

Eielson AFB, Alaska
Home of the Iceman Team

Arctic Sentry

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"To Fight and Support the Fight - Any Time, Any Place"

Base initiates total force integration

by Tech. Sgt. William Farrow
354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Operating under the Total Force concept, Air Force active duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen are integrating to more efficiently accomplish the mission.

The Total Force concept, initiated by the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, eliminates redundancy and streamlines resources to allow the Air Force to meet future challenges with smaller, more capable, more experienced and agile forces.

Two Eielson units recently combined efforts following the Total Force vision by simply streamlining cooperative continuity and training.

The Alaska Air National Guard's 168th Security Forces Squadron and the active duty 354th Security Forces Squadron celebrated the grand opening of Defenders' Hall here March 30. The new 39,000-square-foot work center is the first shared security forces facility in the nation.

For security forces leadership, having both units under one roof improves training quality and enables more efficient communication, said Maj. Carl Alvarez, 168th SFS commander.

"It allows us to better communicate, share information and experiences and provide support to one another," he said. "It also is a more cost-

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Tech. Sgt. Julie Avey

354th Security Forces Squadron acting commander Maj. Roy Godfrey, 168th Air Refueling Wing vice commander Col. Mike Williams, 354th Fighter Wing commander Brig. Gen. Dave Scott and 168th SFS commander Carl Alvarez assist Airman 1st Class Mike Fletcher, 354th SFS, with cutting the ribbon during a ceremony opening Defenders' Hall, a state-of-the-art, 39,000 square-foot building accommodating both guard and active-duty security forces squadrons.

Joint training exercise builds relationships with locals



Capt. Mike Chillstrom

Master Sgt. Brad Johnson talks to Rutilio Mendez, a Honduran engineer, about some cuts that need to be made to a concrete block before it can be placed. Sergeant Johnson is one of 17 Airmen deployed from the

354th Civil Engineer Squadron at Eielson in support of New Horizons 2006-Honduras. The 354th is building a three-classroom school in the small village of El Cacao, Honduras.

New Horizons 2006

by Capt. Mike Chillstrom
New Horizons 2006-Honduras

Imagine you're a penguin, living happily in minus 40-degree temperatures. Suddenly you're thrust into the tropical climate of a parrot, where anything below 80 degrees is considered cool.

That shock to the system is

essentially what happened to 17 Airmen from the 354th Civil Engineer Squadron at Eielson Air Force, Alaska. The squadron is one of five civil engineer units deployed here in support of New Horizons 2006-Honduras, a joint training exercise between the Honduran and U.S. governments.

"The first week was pret-

ty hard," said Tech. Sgt. Tim Parault, a heavy equipment operator. "You adapt, but it's tough."

Surprisingly, the 120-degree temperature difference wasn't the biggest challenge for the Alaskan Airmen, whose mission is to build a three-room school in the small village of El Cacao.

"When we first arrived here,

the local people told us that our job site was a pond five or 10 years ago," said 2nd Lt. Sean Stapler, officer in charge of the 354th team. "The site was partially excavated, but it had filled up with water. Basically, we had a pool with two-and-a-half feet of water in it. This was our main challenge."

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Supporting OIF:A pilot's perspective

by Capt. Marshall Chalverus
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Balad AB, Iraq

After work yesterday, I spent a bit of time at the Balad Air Base hospital visiting patients. Iraq is a long way from home (5,618 miles from Fairbanks), and the only visitors that come to see the patients are fellow soldiers and airmen. Visiting patients gets me out of the office, gives me an opportunity to do something different and I get free candy out of the deal. Although some patients prefer the latest issue of Maxim or FHM, the Army lieutenant



Capt. Marshall Chalverus

I'm flying an F-16 mission over Iraq. I get asked that question a lot, not just from our

I sat next to was lucky enough to get my company. The soldier had just finished minor surgery and was scheduled to return to work in two weeks.

While we were talking, he asked me what I do when

Army brethren, but from Airmen as well.

The runway at Balad runs along the majority of base, and is located next to much of the base housing. Anyone stationed at Balad will tell you that you can't avoid the sound of the afterburner on the GE100 engine during take-off, particularly when the sound wakes you up every morning before sunrise. This makes the F-16 something of an infamous novelty to Airmen and Soldiers who are not used to working near fighters. We get a lot of comments about

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The Pacific Air Forces Command Chief Master Sergeant recently visited Eielson to get the word out concerning the future of the Air Force and what enlisted Airmen can expect in the future.

Chief Master Sergeant Rodney McKinley addressed the importance of our mission, our people and the future of Eielson by visiting work centers, meeting with wing leadership and holding a Command Chief Call at the base theater, March 29.

"Our priorities are to ensure our Air Force is capable of doing the mission while taking care of our people," said Chief McKinley during his address to Eielson's enlisted force.

"This means Airmen need to be properly equipped to accomplish the mission, expect the quality of life to continue to improve and see new aircraft added to the Air Force's inventory."

In order to purchase new aircraft, the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force enlists professionals to determine the right number of personnel cuts to be made to ensure Air Force manning is maintained to ensure readiness is where it should be.

The Chief explained that on average, the Air Force's aircraft inventory is 23 years old and to upgrade to newer aircraft means Air Force leadership needs to trim the number

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AFAF reaches halfway mark

The Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign at Eielson has reached its halfway point this week and only three weeks remain. So far, project officers have contacted 55 percent of the Iceman Team.

Airmen need to look no further than the aftermath of the hurricanes that devastated portions of the southern United States to understand the benefit the fund provides the Air Force community.

Visit <http://afassistancefund.org> for more information or call Eielson's AFAF project officers Capt. Matthew Glynn at 377-6608 or Master Sgt. Don Fenton at 377-1136.

Group Project Officers:
354th FW Staff Agencies – 1st Lt. Andrea Wild, 377-1322
354th MSG – Master Sgt. Kenneth Christensen, 377-4159
354th MXG – Master Sgt. Rob DeHart, 377-2757
354th OG – 1st Lt. Shawwna Conner, 377-3532
354th MDG – Capt. Matthew Glynn, 377-6608

ICEMEN DEPLOYED



Iraqi Freedom: 87
Enduring Freedom: 428
Other: 38
Total = 553
As of March 23

Today

High 35, Low 20
Partly Cloudy



Sunrise: 6:47 a.m.
Sunset: 9:02 p.m.
Daylight: 14 hrs. 15 min.

WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday

High 30, Low 25
Mostly Cloudy



Sunrise: 6:43 a.m.
Sunset: 9:05 p.m.
Daylight: 14 hrs. 18 min.

Sunday

High 35, Low 25
Mostly Cloudy



Sunrise: 6:39 a.m.
Sunset: 9:08 p.m.
Daylight: 14 hrs. 21 mins.

Integration from Page 1

effective use of tax-payer dollars and maximizes the training opportunities for both active duty and Air National Guard personnel.”

Senior Master Sgt. Alan Carvajal, 168th SFS, said the integration crystallizes the law enforcement experience for both Guard and active-duty security forces Airmen, in addition to enhancing the overall effectiveness of security forces.

The 168th SFS employs not only traditional Guardsmen—Airmen with civilian jobs who serve with the Guard one weekend a month and two consecutive weeks a year—but also many full-time Airmen who bring a lot of experience to the table, Sergeant Carvajal said.

“They’re usually longtime residents of the area and they can teach active-duty personnel—people who are normally here for only three or four years—about the community,” he added. Sergeant Carvajal served as an Alaska State Trooper until he took a full time Guard position with the 168th SFS.

“Some of our Guard personnel have full-time law enforcement careers, and some of us full-time Guard technicians left civilian law enforcement jobs,” he said. “This all increases the Total Force experience level and adds continuity to the mission here at Eielson.”

Another Eielson unit experiencing benefits of integrated operations is the 354th Fighter Wing command post, which welcomed the Guard’s command post operations into the fold more than a month ago.

According to Master Sgt. Steven Guyton, 168th Air Refueling Wing command post superintendent, integration doesn’t just mean bolstered manning numbers (the flight

recently gained eight additional bodies), but also potential for enhanced expeditionary operations.

“As separate units, we supported the 168th ARW, but when it came to day-to-day command post operations—like running emergency procedure checklists—the active duty side got all the business,” explained Sergeant Guyton. “As a combined flight, we still concentrate on supporting the Guard’s KC-135 mission, but now we’re involved in all the routine operations of the command post,” he said.

Sergeant Guyton explained that before the combination it was a challenge to keep current, he said. The 168th ARW’s command post personnel weren’t kept current on all command post operations simply because there’s no mission duplication and no availability to train in every facet of the command post career field.

“We (Guard command post personnel) were in a position where we weren’t fully utilized in our career field, but now that we’re a vital part of a full-up command post facility, consequently, we’re able to take on tasks and gain experience and expertise,” he said.

Sergeant Guyton said that because the Guard’s command post personnel are with the active duty personnel, the training and day-to-day working relationship enhances the Guard’s ability to deploy, too.

“We gain so much from the integration that if the Air Force needs to deploy trained command post personnel—people who can pick up the job anywhere – we can step up to the plate and do the work of our active duty counterparts,” Sergeant Guyton said.

PSD begins transformation

PSD centralizes enlisted retraining: RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The active duty retraining program is now virtual and applications are being processed by the Air Force Contact Center as part of the first phase of the Personnel Services Delivery Transformation.

Airmen interested in voluntary retraining as well as those identified for involuntary retraining will initiate the process on-line via the Virtual Military Personnel Flight.

The retraining self-service application in the vMPF will give Airmen step by step instructions on retraining under the Career Airmen Reenlistment Reservation System and the Noncommissioned Officer Retraining Program.

The new process consists of the following basic steps:

Review the retraining advisory to identify potential AFSCs .

Review Air Force Manual 36-2108, “Enlisted Classification” for AFSC descriptions.

Review retainability requirements listed in Air Force Instruction 36-2626, “Airman Retraining Program” Table 3.3.

Submit a Retraining Request to the Air Force Contact Center using

the Retraining Request link. Once received, contact center personnel will verify career field eligibility and qualifications to retrain into the AFSCs listed. They will then notify Airmen of any additional requirements they must complete.

Airmen will then complete the retraining application to include selecting their desired assignment preferences. The application will then be routed electronically for coordination to the unit commander who will forward application back to the contact center to be submitted to the Air Force Personnel Center Retraining Office for a final decision.

Base-level military personnel flights will continue to process Airmen retraining applications and work any actions or related case files opened prior to March 31.

Airmen requiring assistance or checking on the status of a submission can call the military personnel flight at 377-2276.

PSD enhances BCMR process:

Airmen can now find detailed information regarding Board for Correction of Military Records in the Virtual Military Personnel Flight.

This process was enhanced as part

of the Personnel Service Delivery Transformation to centralize support for Airmen and provide them better guidance for completing all requirements for submitting a BCMR application.

The process will require Airmen to complete the Department of Defense Form 149 “Application for Correction of Military Records...,” attach applicable supporting documentation and mail the package to the address on the reverse side of the DD form. All requests must be received in hardcopy with the original applicant signature.

Applicants should complete all applicable sections of the DD Form 149, including at least the:

- name under which the member served
- member’s Social Security Number or Air Force service number
- applicant’s current mailing address
- specific records correction being requested
- proof of proper interest if requesting another person’s records.

For more information or assistance in completing the BCMR application, call the Air Force Contact Center at (800) 616-3775, option 1, option 1, option 2; commercial (210) 565-5000; or DSN 665-5000.



Victim’s tree

Capt. Tina Baker and Dennis Duval, 354th Fighter Wing Sexual Assault Coordinators, thank Alaska State Trooper Lt. Lantz Dahlke for speaking at the Victim Tree Awareness Ceremony March 31 at the base chapel. The ceremony marked the kickoff of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. The Victim Awareness Tree is located at the commissary and base members are encouraged to show their support of sexual assault awareness by signing their name to a card and placing it on the tree.

Chief from Page 1

of personnel in order to add new aircraft, specifically the FA-22 Raptor and the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

“We have to re-capitalize and re-modernize our aircraft inventory,” said Chief McKinley, principal adviser to the PACAF commander on all enlisted issues.

Chief McKinley said although the Air Force will retire about 1,100 aircraft in the next five years, the Air Force will employ new state-of-the-art aircraft to fight the wars of tomorrow.

“The end result will be a leaner, meaner and better Air Force more suited for the world conditions of today,” Chief McKinley said.

The Chief also touched on the improvements and changes Eielson can expect now that the base is through the Base Realignment and Closure process.

“This is a great opportunity for Eielson to expand and improve the facilities on base and there are several construction projects already slated to begin; to include a new chapel, BX and fitness center,” he said. “The future is very bright for Eielson and the local communities will benefit from the expansion of the base.”

The new dormitory, scheduled to open next month, is just one of the new quality of life additions Eielson has made.

“Our Airmen are going to love the new dormitory,” the Chief said. “I remember living in dormitories with central latrines

and showers. Now Airmen have their own cooking facility, laundry room and extra storage space. It’s extraordinary what we are giving our Airmen, but we do it because they deserve this quality of life standard,” he added.

Chief McKinley also touched on Eielson’s new BASE 24/7 program that kicked off last month. The program focuses on improving Eielson’s quality of life while curbing alcohol related incidents.

“Anything we can do to take care of each other, while improving relations with our local community is outstanding,” Chief McKinley said. “The last thing we want to see is one of our Airmen get in trouble because of irresponsible alcohol use. Responsible drinking is important in today’s society and promoting that culture in our local community will only benefit everyone involved.”

Lastly, the Chief attributed his years of success to following two simple guidelines.

“Airmen need to concentrate and focus on the job they have been trained to do,” he said. “Give 100 percent of your effort and do your best despite whatever job you do or may be given to do. Secondly, treat people correctly - with proper respect and dignity - whether you’re a supervisor or subordinate. Working hard and treating people properly has helped guide me throughout my career and has led me to some of my successes.”

DEPLOYMENT CORNER

Right, Staff Sgt. Joao Oliveira, 386th Expeditionary Communications Squadron land mobile radio NCOIC, works on a communications installation at Camp Bucca, Iraq. Sergeant Oliveira is a ground radio technician from the 354th Communications Squadron.



Staff Sgt. Rachel Goff

Pacific Air Forces Command Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley speaks to Airmen on March 28 at the Airman Leadership School. Chief McKinley visited Eielson’s Iceman Team, addressing the importance of our mission, our people and the bright future of Eielson.

DWI CLOCK

The Iceman Team goal is 60 days without a DWI.

Days without a DWI: 19
Days until goal: 31



Need a free ride home from the North Pole area or on base?

Call: 377-RIDE from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. Friday and Saturday nights

Need a ride home from Fairbanks?

Call: Klondike Cab, at 457-RIDE (7433) for discounted rides back to base.

AADD VOLUNTEERS

Airmen Against Drunk Driving volunteers gave 19 rides last weekend and have ‘saved’ 4,740 lives to date.

Special thanks to last week’s Icemen volunteers for helping keep our Airmen safe.

Ellen Gattin
Senior Airman Nicholas Busch
Murty Dinivahi
Staff Sgt. Eralyn Burgess
Senior Airman Keith St George
Senior Airman Theron Calfee
Airman 1st Class Mike Black
Airman 1st Class Christian Bird
Airman 1st Class Lindsey Johnston
Senior Airman Catherine Jolley

EDITORIAL STAFF

Brig. Gen. Dave Scott
Commander, 354th Fighter Wing

Capt. Christopher Anderson
Chief, Public Affairs

2nd Lt. Bryon McGarry
Deputy Chief, Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. William Farrow
NCOIC, Public Affairs

Airman 1st Class Justin Weaver
Editor

Arctic Sentry

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COMMANDER’S CORNER



Commander’s Hotline
377-6100

The Hotline is your opportunity to get your issues and comments directly to me so I can address them.

Before you call the hotline, however, I strongly encourage you to give the unit involved, your first sergeant or commander a shot at resolving the issue. The Iceman Team takes care of its own, but you should give these people the chance to help. Please leave the names and organizations of the people you’ve contacted who have been unable to satisfy your concern, and I will look into the problem.

Your confidentiality will be respected at all times. Thank you!

Brig. Gen. Dave Scott
354th Fighter Wing commander

Newspaper deadlines

ARCTIC SENTRY deadlines are close of business Friday prior to the following Friday’s publication. E-mail submissions to editor@eielson.af.mil.

Story ideas?

THE ARCTIC SENTRY staff seeks to provide its customers with informative stories about the Iceman Team.

E-mail story ideas to: editor@eielson.af.mil.

TMAP or no TMAP
What are we really looking for?

by Tech. Sgt. Stacy Hornyak
354th Communications Squadron

You’ve seen it numerous times. In fact, it has become so routine that you probably are unaware as to why it’s there and what it really means. You see it every morning when you first power up your computer and you see it every time you pick up the telephone on your desk.

Yes, we’re talking about acknowledging the fact that you are subject to being monitored whenever you use any telecommunications device. The Air Force accomplishes this monitoring by completing the requirements in AFI 33-219, Telecommunications Monitoring and Assessment Program.

Biennially, during even numbered years, the Secretary of the Air Force General Counsel certifies each base for telecommunications monitoring. This involves each base certifying that it has legally notified all personnel that the use of telecommunications devices constitutes consent to TMAP monitoring. The most common telecommunications devices are telephones, computers, fax machines, cellular telephones, hand-held radios, blackberries, and personal digital assistants. Of course as technology continues to evolve, this list will also change.

TMAP involves surveillance of base communications systems and AFI 33-219 contains very clear and concise mandatory notification procedures that must be in

place to support this function. Not properly completing the process can cause Eielson to not only have our monitoring privileges suspended, but will also cause us to lose the connection to our voice and data networks.

So, what does this mean for us here at Eielson? It means ensuring that all telephones and fax machines have a DD Form 2056 attached to them. Your unit’s Information System Security Officer is fully aware of all the requirements, but you can make the ISSO’s job easier by personally ensuring these forms are in place.

If you have any questions concerning the TMAP process, please contact your ISSO or the Wing Information Assurance office at 377-2815.

I report to my boss,
I work for my people

by Maj. Theresa Humphrey
355th Maintenance Operations Squadron commander

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. – I report to my boss, but I work for my people.

Before you think, “I wouldn’t have said that if I were her,” hear me out.

This phrase is about taking care of people and being a selfless leader. When I walk through my door every morning, I’m not thinking about what I can do to impress my boss but what I can do to help my people.

Does it mean my boss doesn’t matter? Of course not! I am still responsible to him, I still answer to him and I still need to keep him informed. However, I don’t exert all of my energy on him. I save it for my people. I take care of them, they take care of me and I can take care of my boss.

So what does it mean when I say “I work for my people”?

It means that whenever I do anything, it is to help them out. When I review enlisted performance reports and officer performance reports, I put an equal amount of time

and effort into all of them no matter what the ratee’s rank. When I review award packages, I make sure it is the best submission possible and we are recognizing the right people.

When I discipline people, I make sure it is fair, equitable and appropriate. I set standards and expect my people to follow them. When people want to talk, I make time for them and listen to what they have to say. I speak my mind even if I don’t tell them what they want to hear.

I try to make things fun, even commander’s calls and staff meetings. I give people honest feedback and I take theirs in return. I let them know what I expect, when they’ve done well, when they haven’t quite hit the mark and what they need to do to improve. I let people do their jobs and trust them until they give me a reason not to.

Most importantly, I genuinely care about their well being and try to convey that in everything I do. The minute this seems phony, I lose credibility.

Now, about my boss. Don’t get me wrong; My boss is very important and I don’t

“When people want to talk, I make time for them and listen to what they have to say. I speak my mind even if I don’t tell them what they want to hear.”

Maj. Theresa Humphrey
355th Maintenance Operations Squadron commander

mean to belittle him in any way. After all, he signs my report and if he really wanted to he could make my life miserable. My point is I do not show up to work every day trying to impress him.

The energy I spend doing that takes away from the energy I could be spending helping my people succeed. If I take care of my people, they will get the job done, and the more professionally satisfied they are, the better they will perform. The better they perform, the better I am fulfilling my responsibilities to my boss.

They are taking care of me by enabling me to take care of my boss. If my boss notices, that’s great! If not, my reward is in knowing my people are

taken care of, motivated to show up to work every day and doing their best.

To me, all the recognition in the world is worthless if I am making my people miserable in the process.

Maybe it just boils down to priorities. I feel an effective leader thinks “people first,” not “me first.”

Good leaders take care of their people because they know their people will take care of them. When their people take care of them, leaders can take care of their bosses. Good bosses will see this quality and in turn take care of the leader. Pretty neat how that all works out!

Selfless leadership has worked for me. Maybe it will work for you!

OIF from Page 1

the noise, and frequently we get a question from a soldier on what precisely we do after we take off (and wake them up at 3 a.m.) The pilots flying the F-16 and creating all the noise at Balad are directly supporting Army and coalition forces, conducting mostly close air support missions.

To get an understanding of what exactly that means, you have to understand the complexity of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

If LSA Anaconda (the Army post that includes Balad AB) was a city in Alaska, it would rank as one of the top five largest cities in the state. I know that doesn't mean much, but all those Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, Sailors and civilians are living and working inside a fenced area no larger than Eielson. The complexity of operations contributes to the enormity of Anaconda. These operations include unmanned aerial vehicle operations, heavy and tactical airlift, Army aviation and convoy logistical support. Air Force operations are quite small, compared to everything else that goes on there.

LSA Anaconda is one of the largest coalition facilities in Iraq, but it is by no means alone. Forward operating bases are spread throughout Iraq, providing support for OIF. These bases serve as protected rest areas for convoys, forward refueling points for vehicles and helicopters, and launch sites for unmanned aerial vehicles. The Soldiers and Airmen in the FOBs purify water, build roads, construct computer networks, teach college classes, provide base defense and help file accrual travel vouchers. They're doctors, mechanics, historians, sensor operators, counselors and truck drivers. Army headquarters and tactical operations centers are located at these FOBs. The FOBs include barracks (many times in the form of tents), dining facilities, recreation centers and the occasional Post or BX.

These FOBs rely on external sources for food, water, equipment and supplies. Although much of this arrives on airlift aircraft, the vast majority is shipped on convoys. Convoys transport gasoline, letters from home, truck tires, plastic dining utensils, medicine, ammunition and Gatorade bottles. These convoys are constantly subject to direct fire from small arms and rocket propelled grenades. They are attacked on a daily basis by improvised explosive devices. Many of the missions we fly here help keep the roads safe for these convoys as well as for military patrols and Iraqi civilians. We do this, thanks to a revolutionary targeting system called LITENING.

If you look closely at the Eielson F-16s, you'll notice many carry a "chin-pod." These pods are mounted on the right-side of the engine inlet, just below the cockpit. The LITENING targeting pod is a successor to the LANTIRN (Low-Altitude, Navigation, Targeting, Infrared for Night) targeting pod that Eielson jets carry. The LANTIRN targeting system was designed to provide pilots an infrared image of a target. This image is displayed on one of two multi-function displays (small televisions) in the cockpit. The pilot can move the targeting



Capt. Marshall Chalverus, 18th Fighter Squadron pilot, is deployed to the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Balad Air Base, Iraq. As a fighter pilot, Capt. Chalverus provides intelligence, information and precise firepower to Soliders and Airmen that are facing real and imminent threats in their AOR.

pod IR camera on a target and fire an invisible laser. The laser is used by the guidance section of a laser-guided bomb, to fly the bomb to the target. If all goes well, the bomb impacts exactly where the pilot places the laser spot. Since the sensor is IR, the pilot can see a clear image day or night.

The new LITENING targeting pod provides an improved high-resolution IR picture. It also includes a charged coupled device camera used to provide an image in the visible portion of the electromagnetic spectrum. Or in simple terms, the CCD allows the pilot to see an object better than you would with a naked eye alone. LITENING adds a laser spot tracker, which allows you to track laser spots from other aircraft and ground units, as well as an infrared laser marker, that is visible only with Night Vision Goggles. One of the most useful features is the addition of a data link, which allows a targeting pod image to be data linked to ground units. This allows ground troops to see what the pilots are seeing.

The improvements that LITENING has over the old targeting pods, particularly in image fidelity,

allow pilots to perform a new type of operation: Non-Traditional Information, Surveillance and Reconnaissance. The Information, Surveillance and Reconnaissance mission has been around for a while and is usually preformed by assets such as Predator UAVs and U-2s. The "non-traditional" aspect is tasking a fighter platform such as an F-16 to perform these missions. Until recently, the F-16 was not equipped for the role. The LITENING pod has revolutionized the F-16, which now has the ability to provide real-time intelligence and surveillance, with much more fidelity and clarity than ever before.

F-16s in OIF are mostly performing close air support. In simple words, CAS is a mission that is given by the theater Air Force commander to support the land (or Army) commander. Traditionally, CAS involved fighters attacking targets under the control of a Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC). JTACs typically are Air Force airmen who are stationed at Army posts, who work and deploy with Army units. They are airpower experts who provide advice to Army ground commanders. In movies, JTACs are the guys with the

radios on their backs that call in the fighters to conduct air strikes in close proximity to friendly units. Since CAS missions involve targets very close to friendly units, JTACs are essential in ensuring bombs are not dropped in the wrong place, which could result in death or injury to friendly forces. JTACs give pilots the target's location and visual description, ensuring pilots hit the correct target.

CAS, however, involves more than just dropping bombs. Ground units have depended on air assets to provide battlefield intelligence and reconnaissance since the Civil War. Coalition units in OIF are no different. They rely on airborne CAS platforms to detect enemy locations, search for ambushes, and sanitize routes. It's the LITENING pod that allows the F-16 to conduct these NTISR missions.

On a typical sortie, my two-ship of F-16s will depart Balad AB in full afterburner with a mixed ordnance load of air-to-air missiles, laser and GPS guided bombs, and 20mm high-explosive bullet rounds. We will perform an unrestricted climb (in afterburner) to quickly get out of range of insurgent surface-to-air missiles or anti-aircraft guns. We'll fly to an assigned area and contact a JTAC who is working with an Army unit. The JTAC will give us a tasking; many times this involves performing NTISR. This may include having us clear a stretch of road ahead of a military or supply convoy and look for IEDs or ambushes. We may also be tasked with searching for enemy rocket or mortar launch teams. When ground units conduct search or raid operations we provide alerts to friendly units of potential dangers. In some instances the JTAC might request an air strike on a target.

We typically fly to several areas and work with multiple JTACs. We routinely air refuel from KC-135 or KC-10 tankers between conducting searches in the multiple AORs. Long missions are typical, and pilots usually land tired, hungry and thirsty. After making a pit-stop to the bathroom, visiting maintenance debrief and filling out paper work, pilots will sit down with an intelligence specialist to debrief the mission. The intelligence experts collect details of the mission including any important video from the LITENING pod. By the time the pilot goes home, he has been at work for over 12 hours.

The missions here are typically not as exciting as our day-to-day training missions we fly back home. We don't do high-G turns and dogfights over Iraq. We don't fly against other aircraft in large complex Cope Thunder missions. Instead, we fly missions to support the Army. We provide intelligence, information and precise firepower to the Soldiers and Airmen outside the FOBs that are facing a real and imminent threat. These Soldiers are helping to rebuild a country. They're risking their lives every day to provide stability and security to the Iraqi people. They also escort convoys and make sure that LSA Anaconda and FOBs around the country get essential supplies and equipment. A trip to the Balad hospital will show you that these supplies not only make life comfortable, it makes it possible.

International Bowhunter’s Education Program

To sign-up for an IBEP class, call Gary Crawford at 347-4252 or 372-1489 or Tommy Johnson at 372-2209. **The outdoor shoot portion of the class will take place weather permitting.*
The IBEP class is required for bowhunters wanting to hunt in Alaska.

- April 8 - classroom
- May 6 - classroom/shoot
- July 15 - classroom/*shoot
- July 29 - classroom/shoot
- Oct 21 - classroom/*shoot
- Nov 18 - classroom

Airman’s Attic April Specials

- 40 Clothing items per family member
- 10 household items
- 1 large item (Television, furniture)
- Unlimited books, toys and shoes
- 2 Easter Items
- 3 New BX items, 1 pair new BX shoes
- Food closet - 20 items for senior airmen and below

The Airman’s Attic is open to all ranks, enlisted and officer. Volunteers are needed. Call April at 372-1967 or 378-7681.



Cub Scout fun

Andrew Wilson, son of Staff Sgt. Patrick Wilson, 354th Fighter Wing Safety Office, works on his car in preparation for the Pinewood Derby. More than 20 Pack 9 Cub Scouts from Eielson showed up at the Joint Mobility Complex March 25 to race their cars and ships. Children in first through fifth grade who would like to join the Cub Scouts can call Patrick Wilson at 488-2602.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PACAF DP visit

Col. Ken James, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces director of personnel, visits Eielson Tuesday to give two base-wide briefings. The first brief updates the Personnel Services and Force Development at 9:30 a.m. at the base theater. Colonel James covers the latest on the new National Security Personnel System for civilian personnel at 2:30 p.m. at the base theater. For more information, call 1st Lt. Tora Adams at 377-4160.

Professional classes offered

Professional development classes are offered Tuesdays from 2-4 p.m. The next class, Personnel Programs is Tuesday. A Leadership Enhancement class is set for April 18 and an Army 101 class is available April 25. For more information, or to reserve a slot for the classes, call Senior Master Sgt. Charles Rogers at 377-7829.

Eielson youth baseball

League coaches, umpires and player’s parents are encouraged to attend an information meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Arctic Survival School, 2610 Central Ave. For more information, call Dave Lemelin at 378-1256 or 372-2016.

IDEA program incentives

Submit an eligible idea to the IDEA program between April 15 - May 15 and receive a gift of your choice participating. Gifts include camping and fishing equipment, luggage carts, coffee mugs and more. In addition, submitters receive a monetary award (minimum \$200) if the idea is approved. To submit your idea, go to <https://ipds.mont.disa.mil>. Upon receiving an email notification that the idea is eligible, stop by the Eielson IDEA office, room 390 Amber Hall and select a gift. For more information call 377-IDEA.

Players, coaches needed

Players and coaches are needed for the base varsity baseball team. To apply for a coaching position, submit an Air Force form 303 at the Eielson fitness center. Players may sign up at the fitness center. Tryouts are slated for 5 p.m. April 15, weather permitting. For more information e-mail call 377-1925.

Switchboard operator

Part-time switchboard operators are needed. Email resumes to suzanne.crawford.ctr@ielson.af.mil. For more information, call 377-1850.

Hip-Hop night at the Yukon Club

9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Friday, April 14

– NO COVER –

Open to 18 and up

Creative Labs MP3 player, movie tickets, food coupons and other give-aways.

New hours

The Two Seasons Dining Facility is now open for dinner 4-7 p.m. Monday through Friday. All other hours of operation remain the same. For the daily menu recording, call 377-6325.

Free book with sign-up

The community center is accepting registrations for their new book club. The first five to sign up will receive a free copy of the "The Da Vinci Code." Call 377-2642.

New hours

The summer office for outdoor recreation will open 10 a.m. April 21 at Bear Lake. Refreshments and displays will be available throughout the day. Barbecue will be served noon to 2 p.m. The winter office at Iceman Falls will be closed April 16. Outdoor recreation staff will be unavailable April 16-20 due to the move. For more information or for questions, call 377-1328.

SERVICES PROGRAMS

Editor's Note: For a list of other classes and programs, call 377-3268 or surf to www.eielsonservices.com. RSVP for classes. Outdoor recreation rents ski equipment, Ice fishing equipment and various other outdoor equipment. Call 377-1232.

Programs

Texas Hold 'em tournaments: 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays at the Yukon Club. Call 377-1075.

Deployed bowling for family members: 5-7 p.m. Fridays at Arctic Nite Lanes. Call 377-1129.

Trap shoot: 5-9 p.m. Tuesdays at the skeet and trap range. Instruction, ammunition and loaner guns are available. Call 377-5338.

FitFactor weekly events: 2:30 p.m. Fridays at the youth center.

Thrifty Tuesdays: 5-8 p.m. \$1 specials on bowling and food at Arctic Nite Lanes.

Skeet league: Log 50 targets per week. Any adult, active-duty member, family member, civilian or retiree may join the league. Call 377-5338.

Chess club: 5:30 p.m. Thursdays at the community center. Call 377-2642.

Spades tournament: 8 p.m. Fridays at the Yukon Club.

Bowling instruction: Available at Arctic Nite Lanes. Call 377-1129.

**Today**

❖Kids' Night Out takes place 6:30-11 p.m. in the youth center. Call 377-3194.

Saturday

❖The Sixth Annual Pet Show takes place 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the youth center. All community members are welcome. Categories include: fastest, high jump, smallest, tallest and most unique. Pets must be on leashes. Call 377-3194.

❖Today is the last day to register for National Library Week. Call 377-3174.

Sunday

❖Sunday Brunch is 9 a.m. to

1 p.m. Sundays in the Yukon Club dining room. Cook-to-order omelets, eggs, french toast, waffles, assorted meats, potatoes, biscuits and more are available. Cost is \$7. Call 377-2228.

Monday

❖Bowl for 50-cents per game 5-8 p.m. Mondays at Arctic Nite Lanes. Shoe rental is also discounted. Call 377-1129.

❖The family child care office will host an egg hunt for program participants 9:30 a.m. at the community center. For more information, call 377-3636 or 377-3635.

❖Introduction to car care

sessions are available by appointment at the auto hobby shop Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Certified mechanics teach multi-point checks for proper fluids, belts and more. Call 377-3190.

Tuesday

❖An aero club safety meeting is slated for 7 p.m. Tuesday. Air Force Services has provided prizes to include a GPS and hand-held radio for the final "Cleared for Take-off" drawing. Members must attend the meeting. Join the club in April and receive a 50 percent discount on any computer-based instruction CD-ROM kit. Call 377-1223.



All movies show at 7 p.m. at the base theater unless otherwise noted.

Tonight: DATE MOVIE

The story of hopeless romantic Julia Jones, who has finally met the man of her dreams, the very British Grant Fonckerydoder. Rated PG-13 (crude/sexual humor, language) 83 minutes.

Saturday: FREEDOMLAND

A white woman blames an African-American man for the death of her son, but a white reporter and an African-American detective think otherwise. Rated R (language, violent content) 113 minutes.

Sunday: 1 p.m. EIGHT BELOW

Inspired by a true story, EIGHT BELOW is an action-adventure about loyalty and the bonds of friendship set in the extreme wilderness of Antarctica. Rated PG (peril, language) 120 minutes.

Sunday: 7 p.m. DATE MOVIE**Thursday: FREEDOMLAND****Only fools...**

Staff Sgt. Matthew Luetkemeyer, 354th Civil Engineer Squadron driver/operator, runs with his son, Wesley Luetkemeyer, during the "Only Fools Run at Midnight," 3k run on base April 1. More than 95 base members participated in the fool's run.

ACCESS EIELSON

Editor's Note: Access Eielson is the central source for all base helping agencies. All activities take place at the family support center unless otherwise noted. For a list of other classes and programs call 377-2178 or go to www.eielson.af.mil.

Upcoming Events

A Hearts Apart Monthly Social and Sled-ding Party, 6-8 p.m. today at Iceman Falls.

Interviewing Tips, 9-10:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Alaska State Job Application Process, 9-10:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Pre-Separation Briefing, noon to 4 p.m. Thursday.

Great Expectations, noon to 4 p.m. Thursday.

Ongoing Programs

Deployment Briefings: Every Tuesday and Thursday, single Airmen at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and married Airmen at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

Ready, Set, Grow Playgroup: 10-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday at the community center.

Smooth Move: 9-11:30 a.m. every Wednesday.

Polar Stroller Rollers: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday at the youth center gym.

“What business would you like to see in the local area?”



“Best Buy! We need a bigger selection of electronics and music.”

Senior Airman Guttenberg Diehl, 354th Logistics Readiness Squadron



“Sports Authority. It would be nice to have a wide variety of athletic equipment to choose from.”

Chris Ferris, Security Officer, Fairbanks



“A Multi-Sports Complex. Soccer, volleyball, basketball, batting cages and an indoor track.”

Master Sgt. Debbie Hollis, 354th Maintenance Group



“Olive Garden. I like the soup and salad special.”

Jan Dawe, NAF Office Manager



“Sonic. It would be funny to see people on roller skates delivering food to the cars during the winter. But they have great food.”

Staff Sgt. Jeromy Walsh, 354th Fighter Wing Legal Office

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Workers sank eight inches with every step in the soggy clay ground. In fact, some people thought the 354th would have to find a new plot of land if El Cacao was to ever get its new school.

Before abandoning the site, the team’s last-ditch effort was to build five 12-foot de-watering wells and use a pump to remove the excess water. The plan worked.

“We pumped over a half million gallons of water,” Lieutenant Stapler said. “Then we brought in 1,200 cubic meters of fill to get the site ready for construction.”

The labor-intensive process put the unit weeks behind schedule. Once they had a dry, hard surface to build on, the 354th began operating at full speed.

The unit, which lays about 220 concrete blocks a day, has already completed more than 50 percent of its concrete block work

and expects to begin roof work within a couple weeks. Simultaneously, a large leech field for the septic system will be created.

From there, the 354th will install doors, windows, electrical and plumbing systems, and apply a fresh coat of paint. All construction is expected to be finished in late April.

When completed, the El Cacao school will have three classrooms, several storage rooms and latrines, said Lieutenant Stapler. At 100-by-28 feet in size, it’s the largest of the five construction projects associated with New Horizons 2006-Honduras.

“The school will have a lot more space (than other local schools). This is a big step up for them,” said Staff Sgt. Marvin Mack, electrician.

About 480 students and their families will be affected by the new school.

For the Eielson team, this project has

allowed its members to hone their building skills and give something back to the local community. When the 354th arrived in early February, the local people played a key role in mapping out existing water lines to get the project underway.

“The local people have been really supportive. They’ve even cooked for us,” Lieutenant Stapler said. “We have kids hanging around here all the time, so we know what we’re doing is helping them out.”

When completed in May, the Joint Task Force responsible for New Horizons 2006-Honduras will have built four schools, a maternity clinic and provided free medical care at 14 different locations in and around the coastal city of La Ceiba. New Horizons is a readiness training exercise sponsored by U.S. Southern Command.



New Horizons 2006

Seventeen members deployed from the 354th Civil Engineer Squadron at Eielson are building a three-classroom school in the small village of El Cacao, Honduras, as part of New Horizons 2006-Honduras



2nd Lt. Sean Stapler



Capt. Mike Chillstrom



2nd Lt. Sean Stapler

Top, Senior Master Sgt. Mike Miller makes sure all concrete blocks are straight and level at the El Cacao school site. Above, Tech. Sgt. Tim Parault (middle) helps smooth a concrete foundation. Left, Senior Airman Julian Sisneros aims a hose used to remove more than 500,000 gallons of water from the 354th Civil Engineer Squadron’s job site.